

This EPA-funded research project is led by the Clean Technology Centre (CTC), in collaboration with the Rediscovery Centre, Community Resources Network Ireland (CRNI), and the Eastern Midlands Waste Region. The project looks into methodologies to assess and measure the Irish reuse sector. By analysing international best practice, the project team will develop an overview of good practices in other countries, draw lessons for Ireland, and identify gaps in the information that needs to be gathered.

Together with reuse practitioners in Ireland, the research team will develop and pilot methodologies for the qualitative as well as quantitative assessment of the sector. Through the small-scale piloting, the measurement methodologies can be refined and any barriers to data gathering can be identified. Therefore, the project will test the capability of the Irish reuse sector to supply necessary data and inform policy makers on the required supports to the sector. This in turn will inform future potential investors to support job creation and social enterprise, as well as supporting the provision of low cost, high value products.

The quantitative data provided by the research will allow Ireland to benchmark the reuse sector against those of other Member States and regions. It will also provide a picture of the scale of reuse which can be compared to overall material flows, consumption rates, waste arisings and rates of recovery and recycling.

By developing methodologies for the qualitative and quantitative assessment of the sector, Q2Reuse will provide policy makers, stakeholders and practitioners with a crucial overview of the non-waste reuse sector of Ireland – vital information as Europe moves towards a Circular Economy model.

Project webpage: www.rediscoverycentre.ie/research/qualifying-and-quantifying-the-reuse-sector/
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